Susperia Mystery Comics Alpha

名探偵猫丸先輩の事件簿

原作
倉知淳

作画
秋乃茉莉　鳥羽笙子
風祭壮太　月嶋つぐ美
河内実加　大塚あきら
吉川うたた　宗 美智子
時友美如　大橋 薫

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秋田書店

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住所不明、職業不定、姓名不詳…。様々なバイトをこなす
フリーターの帝王。そんな猫丸先輩のもう一つの顔は名探偵！

イラスト 木村和昭

大人気猫丸先輩シリーズ、
傑作10編を一挙収録!!

[桜の森の七分咲きの下] 秋乃茉莉
[空中散歩者の最期] 鳥羽笙子
[高僧の刺客] 風祭壮太
[めしやより愛をこめて] 月嶋つぐ美
[海に棲む河童] 河内実加
[夜届く] 大塚あきら
[クリスマスの猫丸] 吉川うたた
[生首幽霊] 宗 美智子
[芽出たい方程式] 時友美如
[猫の日の事件] 大橋 薫

α
Susperia Mystery Comics Alpha

*Note There's no page 1 ^^

Sakura no Mori no Shichibuzaki no Shita (Under the Canopy of Blossoming Sakura)

Story by Kurachi Jun

Art by Akino Matsuri

The art and story belong to Akino Matsuri and Kurachi Jun respectively and the publisher
This scanlation is brought to you by fans who want people to read the works of Akino-sensei and to support her buying her books
We will never ask for retributions of any kind
This scanlation is NOT to be **sold**, **rescanlated**, or **redistributed** in groups, forums or other websites
Please direct people to our irc channel or our website to get the releases

This scanlation just doesn't do Akino-sensei's artwork justice
Support both the writer and her by buying the book!

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GREAT DETECTIVE

NEKO-MARU-SENPAI'S CASE FILE

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* Please note that we're ONLY doing the first story (the one done by Akino-sensei) even though the other ones look very cute too ^^ -ScarletxD-

GREAT DETECTIVE NEKOMARU-SENPAI'S CASE FILE

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Akino Matsuri

*Sakura - Cherry blossoms

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<Works appeared in monthly "Susperia Mystery">

★ This book is a work of fiction and bears absolutely no relation to existing individuals or organizations

Night Exile
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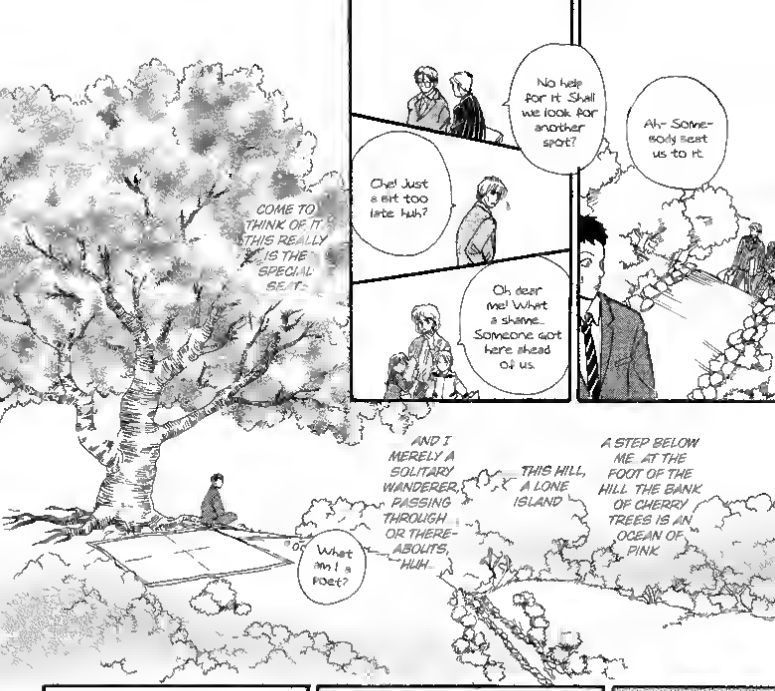
FILE 1

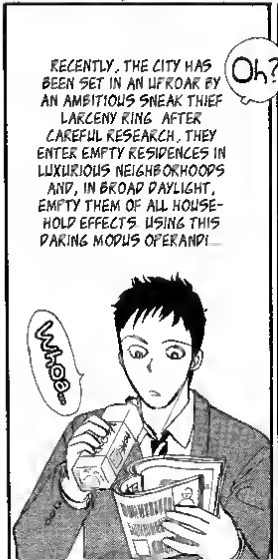
UNDER THE CANOPY OF BLOSSOMING SAKURA

Artist Akino Matsuri

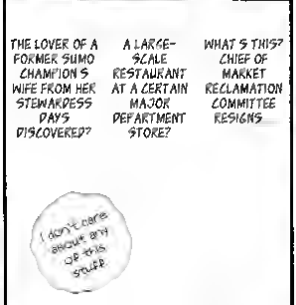
JUST ME?
YESSIR!
I AM YANASE FROM GENERAL AFFAIRS. IF YOU'D COME WITH ME...
ARE THEY SKIPPING THE NEW-EMPLOYEE TRAINING AND GOING STRAIGHT TO MY ASSIGNMENT!?
MY FIRST JOB!
HM? I'M HERE
AHM, IS KOTANI-KUN THERE, I WONDER?
#night_exile@irc.rchighway.net
AS IT TURNS OUT, I'M GOING TO HAVE YOU TAKE OVER AN IMPORTANT DUTY WHICH BEGINS OUR COMPANY'S FISCAL YEAR.
OUR PRESIDENT IS GREATLY LOOKING FORWARD TO IT AS WELL
HUH...
THEY'RE EXPECTING GREAT THINGS FROM ME!?
VROOM
NOW THEN, HERE YOU ARE. LUNCH IS COVERED BY THE COMPANY, DRINKS ARE SELF-FINANCED
thud
AND THIS MAGAZINE IS MY TREAT.
!?
WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU!

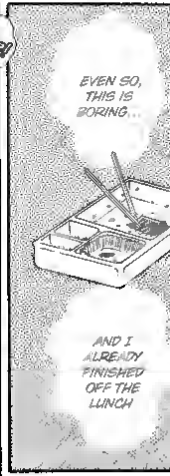
*SFX: Whoooosh
かぁぁ
83
I KNEW IT! SMALL CORPORATIONS ARE STINGY! ...NO.
I WILL NOT MAKE PETTY COMPLAINTS.
IT'S REALLY HARD TO GET INTO A COMPANY IN THIS RECESSION, AND THIS IS THE ONE I FINALLY CAUGHT.
HE CALLS HOLDING A SPOT FOR CHERRY-BLOSSOM VIEWING AN "IMPORTANT DUTY"....!?
And whaddaya mean "drinks are self-financed"?


No help for it. Shall we look for another spot?
Ah~ Somebody beat us to it.
Oh! Just a bit too late, huh?
Oh dear me! What a shame... Someone got here ahead of us.
COME TO THINK OF IT, THIS REALLY IS THE SPECIAL SEAT~
AND I MERELY A SOLITARY WANDERER, PASSING THROUGH OR THEREABOUTS, HUH...
THIS HILL, A LONE ISLAND
A STEP BELOW ME AT THE FOOT OF THE HILL THE BANK OF CHERRY TREES IS AN OCEAN OF PINK
What am I a poet?


RECENTLY, THE CITY HAS BEEN SET IN AN UPROAR BY AN AMBITIOUS SNEAK THIEF LARCENY RING. AFTER CAREFUL RESEARCH, THEY ENTER EMPTY RESIDENCES IN LUXURIOUS NEIGHBORHOODS AND, IN BROAD DAYLIGHT, EMPTY THEM OF ALL HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS. USING THIS DARING MODUS OPERANDI...
Oh?
Whoa~

AT LEAST MAKE IT "SUKI-A" OR "TREASURE SHIP", WHY DONTCHA!
Oh!
THIS IS A GEEZERS WEEKLY MAGAZINE
Weekly Facts


THE LOVER OF A FORMER SUMO CHAMPION'S WIFE FROM HER STEWARDESS DAYS DISCOVERED?
A LARGE-SCALE RESTAURANT AT A CERTAIN MAJOR DEPARTMENT STORE?
WHAT'S THIS? CHIEF OF MARKET RECLAMATION COMMITTEE RESIGNS
I don't care about any of this stuff


EVEN SO, THIS IS BORING...
AND I ALREADY FINISHED OFF THE LUNCH

LUXURY RESIDENCES...
EVEN IN THIS DAY AND AGE MONEY BREEDS MONEY, DOESN'T IT
LIKE THAT ONE!?
PEOPLE ALWAYS SAY THERE ARE CORPSES BURIED UNDER CHERRY TREES BUT
MAN WHAT THE HECK?!
POKE
OW--!!
HAH
I'M SO BORED...
OH JUST A ROCK, HUH?
http://www.nightexile.gb.net
HOW DID I GET REDUCED TO THIS...
@&!
ROLL
ROLL
ROLL

HEY. YOUR BACKUP'S HERE
--EH?
I'LL TAKE OVER FROM HERE
YOU HEAD ON BACK TO THE OFFICE FOR NOW.
A SENIOR OFFICER FROM THE COMPANY?!!
I HAVEN'T BEEN WITH THE COMPANY LONG, SO I DON'T KNOW THE OTHER EMPLOYEES' FACES BUT
SIT UP
SORRY, BUT COULD YOU TAKE THE TRAIN BACK? THE STATION'S RIGHT BY THE SHOPPING DISTRICT.
thump
YE- YESSIR. AND WHAT SHOULD I DO AFTER THAT?
THEY'LL TELL YOU WHEN YOU GET THERE THERE'S STILL SAKE AND THE LIKE TO GET READY.
I SEE
THEN I'LL BE GOING.
AH- HEY YOU FORGOT SOMETHING.
OH?
Weekly Pacific
AH... YOU CAN KEEP THAT, IF YOU'D LIKE IT. I'VE ALREADY READ IT, AND YOU'LL BE BORED, WON'T YOU?

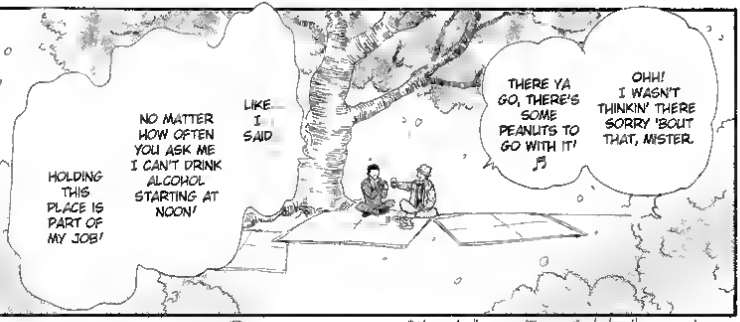
SOMETHING'S WEIRD HERE
I KNOW MANAGER YANASE SAID THEY ALWAYS HAD THEIR CHERRY BLOSSOM VIEWING PARTY AT THIS SPOT EVERY YEAR
EH!?
HEY, THEY REALLY DID GET A NICE SPOT, DIDN'T THEY?
THIS IS THE SPECIAL SEAT.
REALLY? THANKS.
#night_exile@irc.irchighway.net
THE WAY HE SAID THAT, IT SOUNDED LIKE HE'S NEVER BEEN HERE BEFORE--
UH-HUH... BUT, UM, WHO TOLD YOU TO COME AS MY RELIEF?
... WHO... WELL, ORDERS FROM THE TOP, YOU KNOW.
FROM THE MANAGER?
YE- YEAH, FROM THE MANAGER.
UHMM--
WHAT NOW? IF YOU DON'T HURRY BACK FAST, YOU'LL GET SCOLDED.

AND WHAT WAS THAT MANAGER'S NAME?
UHM... IT WAS...
.....
.....
IT'S A LITTLE BIT WEIRD THAT YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW THE MANAGER'S NAME, ISN'T IT
WHO ON EARTH ARE YOU!?
Weekly Facts
HEY, COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU WERE LOOKING UP HERE EARLIER.
ALONG WITH SOME OTHER PEOPLE WHO'D COME TOO LATE TO GET A SPOT.
CHE!
YOU'VE GOT GOOD EYES THERE.
WELL, IF I'M FOUND OUT, THAT'S THAT.

AH-
HOLD IT!
DON'T
RUN AWAY!
HEY!
.....
http://www.nightexile.cjb.net
Weekly Facts
THIS IS
WHY OFFICE
WORKERS
CAN'T GET
CARELESS...
I'M GONNA
HAVE TO
KEEP MY
EYES
PEELED
Grrr!
grip
I ALMOST
GOT
TRICKED
INTO
HANDING
OVER THIS
SPOT!
MAN,
THAT
WAS
CLOSE!

HEYA, MISTER
Hic
HOLDING A SPOT FOR CHERRY BLOSSOM VIEWING?
NOW THIS- THIS'S A GRE T VIEW.
YOU GOT YOURSELF A GOOD SPOT, MISTER.
UM... YEAH, I GUESS
BUT IT'S LONESOME UP HERE BY YOURSELF, RIGHT?
I'LL GIVE YOU ONE AS A BOREDOM-FIGHTER, WHADDAYA SAY?
N- NO, I'M FINE
DON'T HOLD BACK NOW. IT'S MY TREAT.
NO, I REALLY DON'T WANT IT

NO, THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM.
THIS'LL SEND THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS FLOATING FOR YA. STRONG STUFF, YA KNOW?
HOW 'BOUT THIS ONE, THEN? IT'S WHISKEY
WHAT, YOU DON'T LIKE BEER?

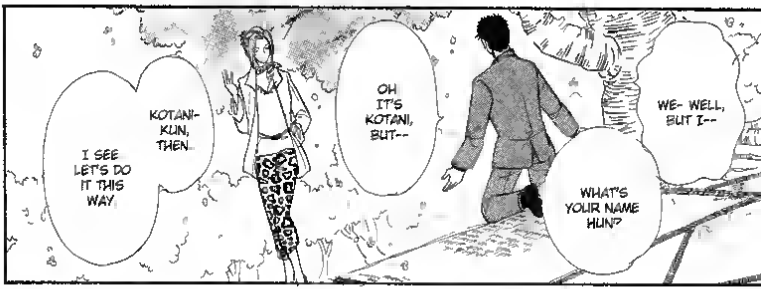

HOLDING THIS PLACE IS PART OF MY JOB!
NO MATTER HOW OFTEN YOU ASK ME I CAN'T DRINK ALCOHOL STARTING AT NOON!
LIKE... I SAID
THERE YA GO, THERE'S SOME PEANUTS TO GO WITH IT!
OHH! I WASN'T THINKIN' THERE SORRY 'BOUT THAT, MISTER.

* He's actually saying "Tsumami" which is the general term for snacks or finger food served with sake. SakkaOnna

WHAT'S WITH YOU? BORING AINTCHA, MISTER.
SCOFF AT FOLKS' KINDNESS, WILL YA.
Seriously kids these days...
grumble
grumble
HAH... GEEZ STUPID DRUNK
PLEASE I'M BEGGING YOU NOBODY ELSE COME UP HERE...
OH, WOW.
IT'S GORGEOUS UP HERE, ISN'T IT.
slide
HUH!?
#night_exile@irc.irchighway.net

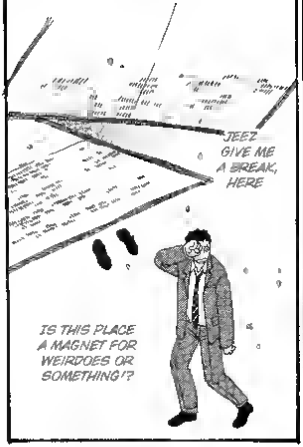
HOLDING A PLACE FOR CHERRY-BLOSSOM VIEWING? THAT'S ROUGH
WELL... YEAH
WATCH IT. EVEN IF SHE'S WOM..N," ND "BABE," I MUSTN'T GET CARELESS.
ACTUALLY, I HAD A LITTLE FAVOR TO ASK OF YOU...
HUH!?
COULD YOU LEAVE ME HERE BY MYSELF, PLEASE?
AH! I'M SORRY. OF COURSE YOU'RE STARTLED, HAVING SOMEONE SAY THAT TO YOU SO ABRUPTLY.
ACTUALLY, MY HOBBY IS DRAWING PICTURES, AND I WAS JUST THINKING I'D LIKE TO DRAW CHERRY BLOSSOMS.
I FEEL THAT BEING HERE WILL BE A SPLENDID INSPIRATION TO ME BUT THESE THINGS ARE DELICATE, YOU KNOW
IF THERE'S SOMEONE NEAR ME, THEY'LL BE A DISTRACTION AND I WON'T BE ABLE TO CONCENTRATE.

I'LL WATCH IT FOR YOU.
AH— IF IT'S THE PLACE YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT, NEVER FEAR.
I'M HERE TO HOLD A PLACE, YOU KNOW. IT'S MY JOB.
E- EVEN IF YOU SAY TO LEAVE YOU ALONE—


I SEE LET'S DO IT THIS WAY.
KOTANI-KUN, THEN.
OH IT'S KOTANI, BUT--
WE- WELL, BUT I--
WHAT'S YOUR NAME HUH?

EH BUT-BUT—
THERE'S ANOTHER, THEN.
NOT ENOUGH?
Sparkle
WHILE I'M UP HERE, YOU GO DOWN TO THE TOWN AND PLAY PACHINKO.*
HERE, I'LL GIVE YOU SOME FUNDING.
TE- TEN THOUSAND YEN!?**
*Pachinko is a form of gambling. I've heard it compared to vertical pinball.
**About $40 USD
-SakkaOwl

THIS IS MY FIRST JOB
MAYBE I DON'T LOOK LIKE IT BUT I'M ALL ABOUT COMPANY LOYALTY, A HUNDRED PERCENT!
BRIBING ME ISN'T GONNA WORK, EITHER!
BRI-
I'M GUARDING THIS SPOT TO THE DEATH!!
"TO THE DEATH" THAT'S A BIT MUCH, ISN'T IT?
FREE TIME TO KILL WITH MONEY TO SPEND ISN'T SUCH A BAD DEAL, IS IT?
NO, THAT'S NOT THE PROB--
IT'S STILL NOT ENOUGH? YOU'RE MORE CALCULATING THAN I THOUGHT
HOW'S THIS, THEN!?
FIFTY THOU-SAND!?*
crackle
IS THIS LADY EVEN SANE!?
*Around 450 USD
I PROMISE YOU I'LL RETURN THE PLACE TO YOU WHEN YOU NEED IT
CHERRY-BLOSSOM VIEWING STARTS IN THE EVENING, DOESN'T IT? WHAT I WANT TO SEE IS THE SUNLIGHT ON THE BLOSSOMS



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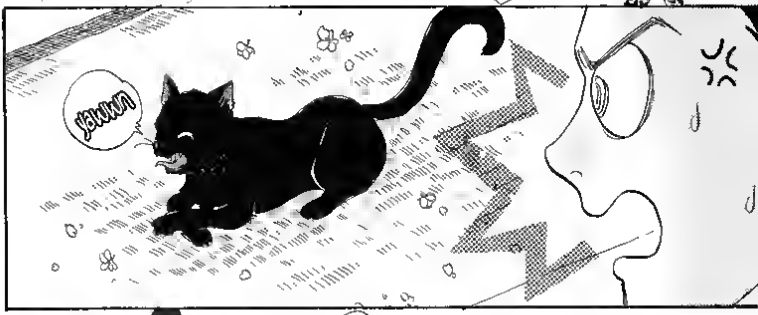
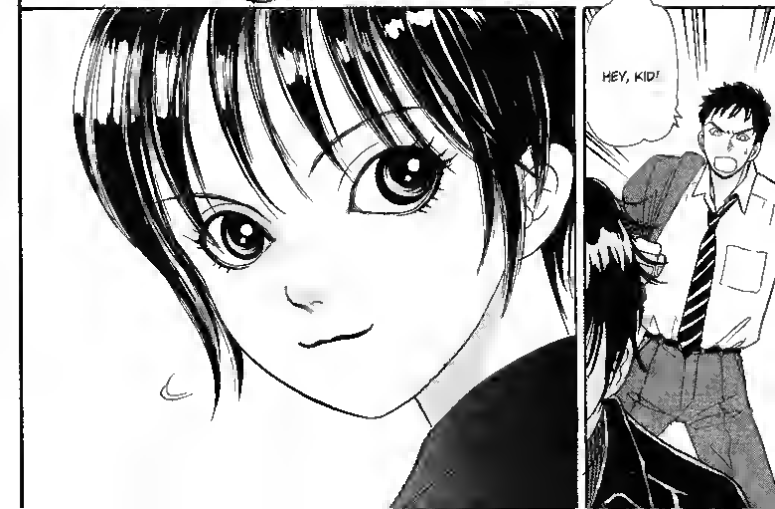


NOW THAT IT'S COME TO THIS, I'M NOT LETTING ANYONE SET A FOOT ON THESE MATS!!
!!
gurgle
IS THAT A PUBLIC TOILET OVER THERE?
AND IT LOOKS LIKE THE PLACE-HOLDERS HAVE SETTLED DOWN THERE. SO NOW'S MY CHANCE
RIGHT! I'LL SPRINT BOTH WAYS!!
COME TO THINK OF IT, I HAVEN'T BEEN TO THE BATHROOM SINCE THIS MORNING ..
SHOOT...! I DRANK TOO MUCH TEA, HUH?
self-firmanod
BUT GOING IN THE BUSHES WOULD BE KIND OF A BREACH OF ETIQUETTE

#night_exile@rcirchighway.net



bow
OH...
SURE I'M KOTANI
AH... WOULD YOU BE, BY ANY CHANCE, THE GUARD FOR THIS PARTICULAR SPOT? SO SORRY TO TROUBLE YOU
bow
...NO, HANG ON, THAT'S NOT THE--
MY NAME IS NEKOMARU
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE!?
YOU CAN SEE ALL THE CHERRY TREES BELOW... IT'S QUITE THE SIGHT FOR SORE EYES
AND THEN... WELL, DON'T YOU THINK IT'S SPLENDID? ESPECIALLY SINCE FROM UP HERE,
WHAT AM I...? JUST LOLLING AROUND
HE LOOKS LIKE A KID, BUT HE TALKS AN AWFUL LOT LIKE AN OLD GEEZER
IT'S WARM, AND THE WEATHER IS BEAUTIFUL, SO I THOUGHT I WOULD ENJOY THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS AND SOME GENTEEL COMPANY IN PROPER STYLE
I'M HOLDING THIS PLACE, SEE
I ALREADY KNOW THE VIEW'S GREAT, SO WOULD YOU HURRY UP AND GO AWAY?

OKAY, THEN! YOU'RE SATISFIED, RIGHT? NOW GO AWAY
YOUNGER THAN ME, BUT HE GETS ALL FRIENDLY AND CALLS ME "KOTANI-KUN"
WHY MUST YOU BE SO HARSH?
MAYBE NOT, BUT OFF-LIMITS THINGS ARE OFF-LIMITS JUST GET OUTTA HERE, SHOO!
THE SCENERY WON'T LOSE ANYTHING BY MY ENJOYING IT AS WELL...

AH-- AM I TO ASSUME YOU KNEW THAT THIS STONE WAS BURIED HERE?
YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SOMETHING SOONER. YOU'RE NOT A VERY NICE PERSON, KOTANI-KUN.

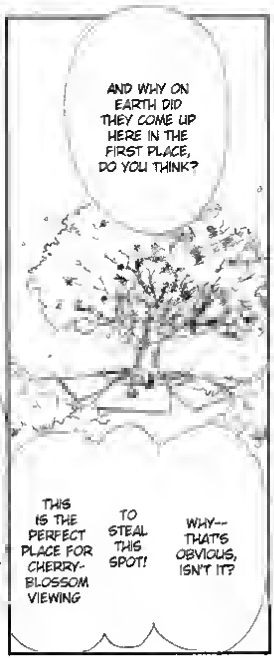
http://www.nightexile.gjb.net

HIJACK!?
FOR A WHILE NOW, PEOPLE LIKE YOU HAVE BEEN COMING IN HERE AND OFFERING TO SWITCH WITH ME OR TAKE MY PLACE SO THEY CAN HIJACK THIS SPOT
YOU BET I'M CRANKY!!
I DON'T SEE WHY YOU HAVE TO BE SO CRANKY ABOUT THIS
OH, COME NOW, IT'S A PRETTY EXCITING EXPERIENCE, ISN'T IT, KOTANI-KUN?
JUST WHERE IS THIS FUN?! I'M HALF DEAD HERE!
AH, BUT IF YOU'RE NOT PAYING ATTENTION TO IT, YOU WOULDN'T KNOW, WOULD YOU?
JUST LIKE THIS
?
EVEN IN THE MOST UNEXPECTED PLACES, THERE ARE ALL SORTS OF FUN THINGS TO STUMBLE UPON AREN'T THERE
WELL, I'LL BE-- THAT'S TERRIFIC, THAT IS!

I CAN WAIT IN ANTICIPATION, LIKE KOTANI- KUN A FEW MINUTES AGO, BECAUSE I KNOW THAT SOMEONE MIGHT JUST DECIDE TO LAY DOWN ON IT
HOWEVER, NOW THAT I KNOW THERE IS A STONE HERE...
FOR EXAMPLE A SHORT WHILE AGO, I WAS UNAWARE THAT THERE WAS A STONE UNDER HERE...
AND SO IT HAD NO SPECIAL MEANING TO ME. IT WAS JUST A PIECE OF MATTING
?
IT LOOKS AS THOUGH YOU STILL HAVEN'T GRASPED IT.
IN SHORT, IF YOU ARE ABLE TO CHANGE YOUR VIEWPOINT, ANYTHING CAN BECOME INTERESTING
* I love his eyes in this panel. Coolness) ~SakkaOnna~
Pow
THEN, AS THE VIEWING FEE FOR THIS BORROWED SCENERY, SHALL I TELL YOU AN INTERESTING STORY?
click
OR NO MAYBE HE'S OLDER THAN HE LOOKS?!
WHAT THE HECK DOES THIS KID THINK HE IS?

UNNATU-RAL?
IT'S ABOUT YOUR SO-CALLED 'STRANGE LOT' THAT CAME UP HERE.
TO ME, THEIR ACTIONS SEEM HIGHLY UNNATURAL.
YES. SINCE THEIR MOVEMENTS IRRITATED YOU AND MADE YOU THINK THEM STRANGE. THEY WERE FAR TOO UNUSUAL.

#night_exile@irc.irchighway.net


AND WHY ON EARTH DID THEY COME UP HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE, DO YOU THINK?
THIS IS THE PERFECT PLACE FOR CHERRY-BLOSSOM VIEWING
TO STEAL THIS SPOT!
WHY--- THAT'S OBVIOUS, ISN'T IT?

I ASSUME HE MARKED YOU AS AN OBVIOUS PLACE-HOLDER FOR CHERRY-BLOSSOM VIEWING BY YOUR BRAND-NEW SUIT, WHICH YOU DON'T YET WEAR WELL.
LET'S CONSIDER THEM IN ORDER.
FIRST OF ALL, THE MAN WHO LIED SAYING HE WAS A SENIOR WORKER FROM YOUR COMPANY AND HAD COME TO TRADE OFF WITH YOU.
Whaddaya mean, I don't wear it well? None of your business!

AT THE WORST, THERE MIGHT BE A SCUFFLE AMONG BUSINESSMEN, AND THE VIEWING SPOT WOULD BE LOST ENTIRELY
TROUBLE WOULD BE INEVITABLE
... UH...
JUST THINK ABOUT IT IN HOLDING PLACES FOR CHERRY-BLOSSOM VIEWING, THE FASTEST PERSON WINS
EVEN IF HE LIED AND FOOLED YOU, IF YOU LATER RETURNED WITH A CROWD OF PEOPLE FROM YOUR COMPANY IN TOW...
• While this is the actual meaning of the phrase "the literal translation is "Dango (rice-dumplings a kind of sweet) before flowers" and could be considered a pun. —SakkaOnna
INSTEAD OF AWKWARDLY DRINKING ALONE WITH A YOUNG MAN YOU GET ALONG WITH QUITE BADLY...
IT'S BUSINESS BEFORE PLEASURE•
NO MATTER HOW GOOD THE VIEW, WITH THAT KIND OF DRUNKARD
WE WELL NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
IT WOULD OBVIOUSLY BE MUCH MORE FUN TO MIX WITH THE HOARDS BELOW AND DRINK YOURSELF SILLY!
...BUT THIS IS THE BEST SPOT, AFTER ALL!!
WELL THEN THE DRUNKEN MAN WHO CAME NEXT?
HE TRIED TO FORCE ME TO DRINK...?

LASTLY, THE WEALTHY WOMAN
WHAT CAN I SAY ABOUT THIS CHARAC-TER?
SHE WAS A COMPLETE FAILURE, TELLING A LIE SO CLUMSY IT MADE YOU DOUBT HER SANITY.
WAS SHE FLUSTERED BECAUSE THE EARLIER TWO HAD FAILED PERHAPS?
http://www.nightexile.cjb.net
HA- HANG ON A SECOND!
"THE EARLIER TWO"
YOU MEAN THOSE THREE WERE TOGETHER!?
I BELIEVE SO. IT SEEMS AS THOUGH THEY WERE MOVING WITH THE SAME GOAL IN MIND.
THEY- THEY WERE USING THREE PEOPLE TO STEAL THIS SPOT!?
I TOLD YOU, THAT'S NOT IT!
YOU'RE CONCENTRATING TOO HARD ON THE PLACE, AND IT'S CLOUDING YOUR VISION.
Grr!
FINE, THEN... IF THEY DIDN'T WANT THE PLACE, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING THEY WERE AFTER?
YOU.
ME!?
YOUR PERSON, KOTANI-KUN.

AND, AS THEY SAID, THEY MEANT TO RETURN THE SPOT TO YOU BY EVENING
THE FALSE SENIOR WORKER AND THE SELF-PROCLAIMED ARTIST-WOMAN TRIED TO TEMPORARILY REMOVE YOU FROM THIS SPOT
BUT FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THOSE THREE YOUR EXISTENCE WAS THE BIGGEST PROBLEM
THAT'S RIGHT TO YOU, THIS PLACE MAY ONLY LOOK LIKE A CHERRY TREE AND MATTING
WELL, FOR EXAMPLE
THE DRUNKEN MAN PROBABLY PLANNED TO MAKE YOU DRINK YOURSELF UNDER THE PROVERBIAL TABLE
WHA--
WHAT THE HECK FOR!?
THAT MANSION
....?
AAHH!!

night_exile@irc.irchighway.net

FROM HERE, YOU COULD SEE THE ENTIRE CRIME FROM BEGINNING TO END, COULDN'T YOU?
CO- COME TO THINK OF IT, THAT OLD GUY DIDN'T SMELL LIKE ALCOHOL AT ALL
AND THAT WOMAN-- FOR HER STRATEGY, AN INVESTMENT OF FORTY OR FIFTY THOUSAND YEN WAS CHEAP.
AND THAT FAKE OFFICE WORKER LOOKED WAY TOO SHARP...
WHA- WHAT DO I DO!? I SAW ALL THEIR FACES CLEARLY!
THEY SAW MY FACE!
OR NO...
THEY MIGHT ATTACK ME LATER TO STOP ME FROM TALKING!
I- I'VE GOTTA TELL THE POLICE ABOUT THIS, FAST!!
AUU
FIRST OF ALL, THAT MAY NOT BE THE TRUTH...
THERE'S NO GUARANTEE IT'S THE ONLY ANSWER, EITHER.
...EH!?
ISN'T IT ENOUGH TO REPORT THEM FOR ACTING SUSPICIOUSLY?
WELL, I WOULDN'T PANIC.
BU- BUT--

TO SEE YOUR APTITUDE IN DEALING WITH TROUBLE
WHETHER YOU'RE WEAK TOWARDS ALCOHOL OR MONEY
WHETHER OR NOT YOU'RE LOYAL TO THE COMPANY AND SO FORTH
THOSE THREE MAY HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED BY YOUR COMPANY TO TEST THE ABILITIES AND APTITUDE OF THE NEW HIRE
WOU- WOULD YOU NOT SAY CREEPY STUFF LIKE THAT?
IF YOU'D LIKE, SHALL WE INTRODUCE ANOTHER VIEWPOINT?
IT MAY HAVE BEEN LIKE THIS, YOU KNOW
SOMEHOW IT FEELS KIND OF LIKE READING THE SOLUTION TO A MYSTERY NOVEL BEFORE YOU'VE BEEN TOLD THE ACTUAL PUZZLE...?
MEANING I WILL HAVE PREVENTED AN INCIDENT!?
THEN... DOES THAT MEAN, SINCE I'M SITTING HERE THE LARCENY RING WILL POSTPONE TODAY'S CRIME?
NEITHER A LARCENY RING NOR INVESTIGATORS
THEN AGAIN, IT'S POSSIBLE THAT THEY WERE ONLY PASSING WEIRDOES
ULUH..
I GUESS
WELL... IN THE FACE OF NATURE'S GLORIES, MY HYPOTHESIS SEEMS QUITE TRIVIAL

http://www.nightexile.gb.net

ISN'T IT A SHAME TO BE SITTING HERE BORED AND IRRITATED WHEN THERE ARE SO MANY FUNNY THINGS LYING AROUND RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU?
HOWEVER, DIDN'T I SAY SO EARLIER? JUST AS IT IS WITH THE STONE UNDER THIS MAT, IF YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR PERSPECTIVE, ANYTHING CAN BECOME INTERESTING
COULD HE ROMMARU-KUN ACTUALLY BE A VERY WISE MAN...!?
UNYA!!
OW-OW-OW!! I FORGOT ABOUT THE ROCK UNDER HERE
OR MAYBE HE REALLY IS JUST A KID
roll around
NOW THEN, I THINK I'LL NAP...
UNDER THE CANOPY OF BLOSSOMING SAKURA/END

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AFTERWORD

Kurachi Jun

Congratulations! Manga-version Nekomaru-senpai has been published in book form! I'm so glad this is so lucky thank you so very much. Blessings and benedictions, consider the congratulations arrived. Really, thank ye kindly, thank ye. Not to mention that it's all because lots of different mangakas got together and tinkered with Nekomaru-senpai. Really, this is an honest-to-goodness carnival! A carnival, a carnival, a Nekomaru carnival. Go! Go! Go-Team-Go!... This is all I've been doing lately, mindlessly having fun, but I can't spend all my time frolicking can I. First off, I need to calm down and introduce myself. Okay then, I'm Kurachi Jun. I was responsible for the books this work is based on. And even if I say that, lots of you readers who've been kind enough to pick up this book may still have a question like this on your minds. "I thought I'd take a look at this anthology because my favorite mangaka* contributed to it, but the weird little Nekomaru-guy who keeps popping up around the edges-- Who's that?" Quite possibly, most of the people reading this are thinking that. Yeah, you know, they probably are. Well then, let's explain that.

Nekomaru-senpai is a character who plays a detective-type role in Kurachi's (my) novels. He doesn't look or act very dashing, so he doesn't seem much like a detective, but at any rate, he's the detective. (Maybe an unemployed 30-something detective, but a detective.) He usually shows up in mystery novels, but this time lots of professional manga artists have given him manga versions. They got together and tinkered around with him, and thinking, "Nekomaru-senpai—

* A Mangaka is someone who creates manga
-SakkaOnna-

List of Kurachi Jun's "Nekomaru-senpai" books:

"Don't Want to Go Out on Sunday Nights" - Kuramoto Mystery Bunko
"The Transient Wind is Green" - Kuramoto Mystery Bunko
"Fugue of Mystical Beasts" - Kuramoto Mystery Bunko
"Nekomaru-senpai's Conjecture" - Kodansha Novels

★ The above-listed original works have been transformed into comics *

*Grammatically there doesn't seem to be any other way to translate it but from the way Kurachi san talks it sounds as though this book is the FIRST one in comic form, and it's brand new PP -SakkaOnna-

—and Kurachi the creator both have propensities towards bad acting, so it'd be absolutely terrific if I could tinker with him and make him more 'yummy'," they drew some great pictures and made it all into manga with great tempo. After hearing that, you probably understand why the original writer is so incredibly happy that he wants to jump around.

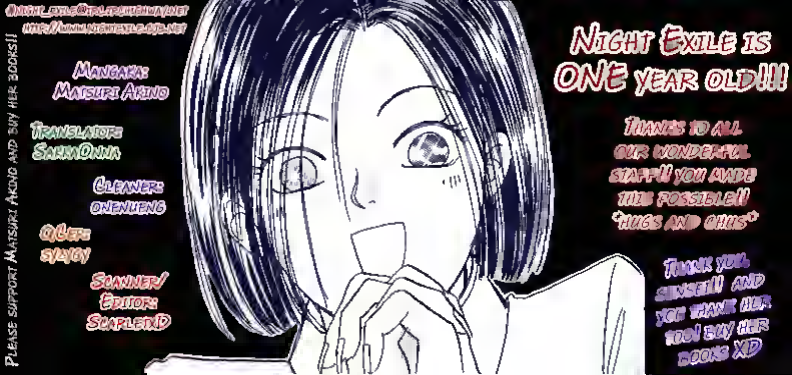
Mystery novels don't always have to be complicated and gloomy. Those of you who've read this book probably already know, but the mysteries Kurachi (I) write usually have this same kind of happy-go-lucky feel to them. If this manga has gotten any of you interested in them, and you go read the novels, that'd make me pretty happy. And there are lots of books that have been published in bunko form, so if you say "Bunko volumes are a better price" and buy 'em that way, I'd be even happier. And advertising like that is kind of a cheap shot, isn't it.

Anyway, the novels in which this great detective appears have been transformed into manga-form, and this is it. It's been drawn chock-full of magic, and turned into a fun manga, and I'm very happy. Thank you so much to all the mangaka-sensei who've been kind enough to draw these wonderful works. I'm sure Nekomaru-senpai is tickled pink too. He might be saying, "Aw, quit it! I'm not all that cool. Don't make me look so great." Readers, did you like him?

If this book is popular, there may be a second and even a third manga anthology to come. So, don't just stand there reading it, go buy it — (Hey, I'm telling you, you can't just jump right out and advertise like that.) For that reason, if this slightly oddball Great Detective has managed to catch your fancy, I'll be very happy as well.

I'm going to keep writing Nekomaru-senpai stories from here on out, so if I've gained your support, I'll be even happier.

THE END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THANKS TO ALL OUR WONDERFUL STAFF!! YOU MADE THIS POSSIBLE!! *HUGS AND OTHS*
THANK YOU GUYS!!! AND YOU THANK HER TOO! BUY HER BOOKS XD